

STEWARDS OF THE SEQUOIA

Division of CTUC non profit 501c3
PO Box 267
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

March 21, 2011

OHMVR
PO Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296

Re: Sequoia OHV Grant 2011

To whom it may concern,

Having reviewed the Sequoia Grant application we find that to the best of our knowledge the statements made by Sequoia are complete and correct.

We support the Sequoia National Forest OHV maintenance grant for the funding of trail maintenance projects. We find these projects are important for continued public access and enjoyment as well as to minimize impacts caused by erosion.

The Sequoia National Forest has an excellent forest-wide OHV recreation program which deserves the support of the OHMVR grant request to enable the Sequoia to continue to provide the wide range of trail maintenance needed each year.

Stewards of the Sequoia is the largest on the ground volunteer program. We support the much needed funding as requested by the Sequoia Forest Service for support staff and supplies which have helped our volunteers to perform trail maintenance on 1590 miles of single track trail since 2004.

The trail maintenance funding requested by the Sequoia Forest Service is needed to enhance and protect the world class OHV opportunities in Sequoia.

We have seen OHV projects on the Sequoia trails which have been funded by prior year grants and have been pleased at how they have maintained and improved the trails.

The implications of OHMVR not funding the Sequoia trail maintenance program grant this year will be higher future maintenance costs and increased impacts and possible loss of opportunity.

The Sequoia National Forest has a strong volunteer program working with Stewards of the Sequoia and other volunteer groups which increases returns on the maintenance funding provided by the OHMVR. The volunteers are motivated to help the trails they love, but it is also nice for them to see that their efforts are able to provide a match for increased OHMVR grant funding.

The Sequoia National Forest offers unique and diverse OHV recreation which deserves continued funding in order to keep the trails open and in good condition.

The powered wheelbarrow included in this grant request will be an asset to the general OHV program as well as to better enable volunteer projects to be more comprehensive.

Sincerely,

Chris Horgan
Executive Director
Stewards of the Sequoia
Division of CTUC 501c3 non profit
chris@stewardsofthesequoia.org

"Since being founded in 2004, Stewards of the Sequoia continues to be the largest on-the-ground organization of volunteers in the Sequoia National Forest. Our crews have maintained over 1,600 miles of trails and have planted hundreds of trees in reforestation projects. We represent in excess of 2300 members whose activities include camping, hunting, fishing, hiking, mountain biking, motorized recreation, boating, windsurfing, rock climbing and horse riding"

Promoting Responsible Recreation & Environmental Stewardship